

17 April 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Record

SUBJECT: Letter to The Hon. Franklin G. Floete  
dated 9 April 56 (ER 8-1307)

1. Mr. Floete called the Director on 16 April 1956 with reference to the attached letter and in particular asked if the Director was thoroughly familiar with, and had, in fact, approved the increase over the normal government fee paid to the architects selected for the new CIA building. Mr. Dulles advised Mr. Floete he was thoroughly familiar with this problem and had approved this increase in fee after considerable bargaining between CIA and Harrison and Abramovitz, the architects. Mr. Dulles pointed out to Mr. Floete that in view of the complexities involved in the type of building we desired and the additional work which would be required by the architects, he felt that their fee should be somewhat increased.

2. Mr. Dulles made clear to Mr. Floete, however, that if he (Floete) had any objection to the increased fee we would be glad to discuss it with him. Mr. Floete replied this would not be necessary since as long as Mr. Dulles was personally in agreement that this should be done, it was "all right" with him.

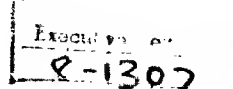


Executive Assistant  
to the Director

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The Honorable Franklin D. Fleet  
Administrator  
General Services Administration  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fleet:

Discussions between representatives of the General Services Administration and this Agency have developed further the problems to be faced in the construction of the proposed new CIA headquarters building at Langley, Virginia. Preliminary negotiations with the architect-engineer have further explored these problems. As a result, we have acquired a fairly concrete realization of the impact of the unusual requirements of this Agency on the planning and design of the building.

It seems clear that the architect-engineer will be faced with a more complex problem to resolve than would normally be encountered in an office building of this size and will have to resolve certain unique requirements to achieve a satisfactory over-all result. The bulk of Agency material is classified so that unusual amounts of vault space and other physical safeguarding arrangements are required. Physical compartmentation of personnel and functions is essential for an intelligence activity to a degree not necessary for other Government or private functions. He provide for protection of material in transit, and in order to avoid undue impairment of efficiency by physical compartmentation, special internal and external communications must be provided for. The use of specialized machines for recording and analyzing intelligence information is in a high state of development, and the nature, location, and secure installation of such machines require most careful planning to insure the most efficient utilization. All of these factors must be considered in designing the building so as to serve efficiently the complicated functional structure of the Agency and the interrelation of its components, while at the same time preserving sound and economical construction.

The proper combination of security, efficiency, and economy of most expert and complete architectural services.

In selecting and negotiating with an architect-engineer for this project, we believe it essential that the foregoing circumstances be kept in mind and that the satisfactory solution of the problems outlined is paramount to obtaining the cheapest available architect-engineer services. If it is necessary to exceed somewhat your cost standards to obtain services required, I am of the opinion that it would be well justified by the nature of this project.

Sincerely,

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Allen D. Dulles  
Director

OGG:LAH:jeb  
Rewritten:DD/S:LAH:laq  
Distribution:

- 0 & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - General Counsel
- 1 - Director of Logistics
- 1 - Chief, Building Planning Staff
- 1 - E.R.
- ✓ 1 - DCI
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CONCISE:

15/  
L. K. WHITE  
Deputy Director  
(Support)

APR 1 1958